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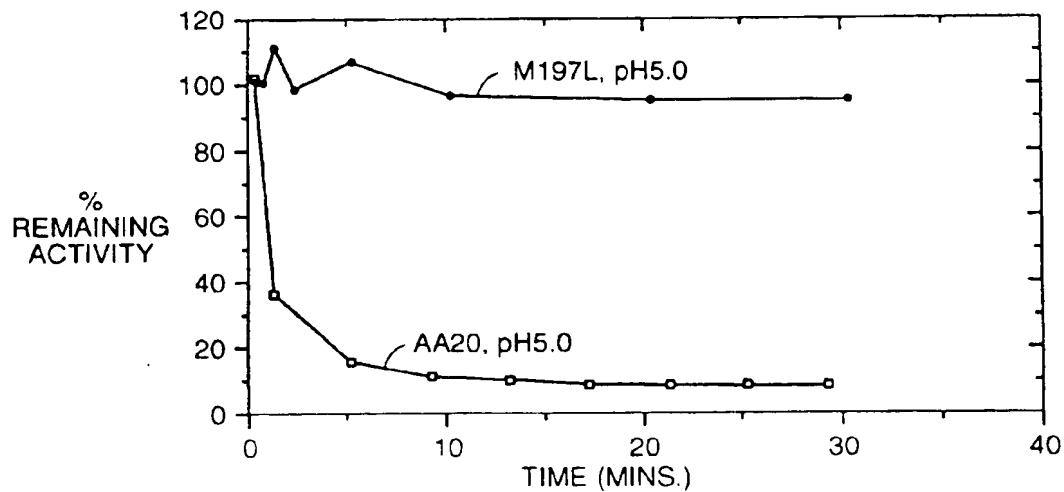
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(54) Title: OXIDATIVELY STABLE ALPHA-AMYLASE



(57) Abstract

Novel alpha-amylase mutants derived from the DNA sequences of naturally occurring or recombinant alpha-amylases are disclosed. The mutant alpha-amylases, in general, are obtained by *in vitro* modifications of a precursor DNA sequence encoding the naturally occurring or recombinant alpha-amylase to generate the substitution (replacement) or deletion of one or more oxidizable amino acid residues in the amino acid sequence of a precursor alpha-amylase. Such mutant alpha-amylases have altered oxidative stability and/or altered pH performance profiles and/or altered thermal stability as compared to the precursor. Also disclosed are detergent and starch liquefaction compositions comprising the mutant amylases, as well as methods of using the mutant amylases.

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OXIDATIVELY STABLE ALPHA-AMYLASE

Related Applications

This application is a continuation-in-part of USSN 08/016,395 filed February 11, 1993.

Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to novel alpha-amylase mutants having an amino acid sequence not found in nature, such mutants having an amino acid sequence wherein one or more amino acid residue(s) of a precursor alpha-amylase, specifically any oxidizable amino acid, have been substituted with a different amino acid. The mutant enzymes of the present invention exhibit altered stability/activity profiles including but not limited to altered oxidative stability, altered pH performance profile, altered specific activity and/or altered thermostability.

Background of the Invention

Alpha-amylases (alpha-1,4-glucan-4-glucanohydrolase, EC3.2.1.1) hydrolyze internal alpha-1,4-glucosidic linkages in starch largely at random, to produce smaller molecular weight malto-dextrins. Alpha-amylases are of considerable commercial value, being used in the initial stages (liquefaction) of starch processing; in alcohol production; as cleaning agents in detergent matrices; and in the textile industry for starch desizing. Alpha-amylases are produced by a wide variety of microorganisms including *Bacillus* and *Aspergillus*, with most commercial amylases being produced from bacterial sources such as *B. licheniformis*, *B. amyloliquefaciens*, *B. subtilis*, or *B. stearothermophilus*. In

recent years the preferred enzymes in commercial use have been those from *B. licheniformis* because of their heat stability and performance, at least at neutral and mildly alkaline pH's.

Previously there have been studies using recombinant DNA techniques to explore which residues are important for the catalytic activity of amylases and/or to explore the effect of modifying certain amino acids within the active site of various amylases (Vihinen, M. et al. (1990) *J. Bichem.* **107**:267-272; Holm, L. et al. (1990) *Protein Engineering* **3**:181-191; Takase, K. et al. (1992) *Biochimica et Biophysica Acta*, **1120**:281-288; Matsui, I. et al. (1992) *Febs Letters* Vol. 310, No. 3, pp. 216-218); which residues are important for thermal stability (Suzuki, Y. et al. (1989) *J. Biol. Chem.* **264**:18933-18938); and one group has used such methods to introduce mutations at various histidine residues in a *B. licheniformis* amylase, the rationale for making substitutions at histidine residues was that *B. licheniformis* amylase (known to be thermostable) when compared to other similar *Bacillus* amylases, has an excess of histidines and, therefore, it was suggested that replacing a histidine could affect the thermostability of the enzyme (Declerck, N. et al. (1990) *J. Biol. Chem.* **265**:15481-15488; FR 2 665 178-A1; Joyet, P. et al. (1992) *Bio/Technology* **10**:1579-1583).

It has been found that alpha-amylase is inactivated by hydrogen peroxide and other oxidants at pH's between 4 and 10.5 as described in the examples herein.

Commercially, alpha-amylase enzymes can be used under dramatically different conditions such as both high and low pH conditions, depending on the commercial application. For example, alpha-amylases may be used in the liquefaction of starch, a process preferably performed at a low pH (pH < 5.5). On the other hand, amylases may be used in commercial dish care or laundry detergents, which often contain

oxidants such as bleach or peracids, and which are used in much more alkaline conditions.

In order to alter the stability or activity profile of amylase enzymes under varying conditions, it has been found that selective replacement, substitution or deletion of oxidizable amino acids, such as a methionine, tryptophan, tyrosine, histidine or cysteine, results in an altered profile of the variant enzyme as compared to its precursor. Because currently commercially available amylases are not acceptable (stable) under various conditions, there is a need for an amylase having an altered stability and/or activity profile. This altered stability (oxidative, thermal or pH performance profile) can be achieved while maintaining adequate enzymatic activity, as compared to the wild-type or precursor enzyme. The characteristic affected by introducing such mutations may be a change in oxidative stability while maintaining thermal stability or *vice versa*. Additionally, the substitution of different amino acids for an oxidizable amino acids in the alpha-amylase precursor sequence or the deletion of one or more oxidizable amino acid(s) may result in altered enzymatic activity at a pH other than that which is considered optimal for the precursor alpha-amylase. In other words, the mutant enzymes of the present invention may also have altered pH performance profiles, which may be due to the enhanced oxidative stability of the enzyme.

Summary of the Invention

The present invention relates to novel alpha-amylase mutants that are the expression product of a mutated DNA sequence encoding an alpha-amylase, the mutated DNA sequence being derived from a precursor alpha-amylase by the deletion or substitution (replacement) of one or more oxidizable amino acid. In one preferred embodiment of

in the present invention the mutant result from substituting a different amino acid for one or more methionine residue(s) in the precursor alpha-amylase. In another embodiment of the present invention the mutants comprise a substitution of one or more tryptophan residue alone or in combination with the substitution of one or more methionine residue in the precursor alpha-amylase. Such mutant alpha-amylases, in general, are obtained by *in vitro* modification of a precursor DNA sequence encoding a naturally occurring or recombinant alpha-amylase to encode the substitution or deletion of one or more amino acid residues in a precursor amino acid sequence.

Preferably the substitution or deletion of one or more amino acid in the amino acid sequence is due to the replacement or deletion of one or more methionine, tryptophan, cysteine, histidine or tyrosine residues in such sequence, most preferably the residue which is changed is a methionine residue. The oxidizable amino acid residues may be replaced by any of the other 20 naturally occurring amino acids. If the desired effect is to alter the oxidative stability of the precursor, the amino acid residue may be substituted with a non-oxidizable amino acid (such as alanine, arginine, asparagine, aspartic acid, glutamic acid, glutamine, glycine, isoleucine, leucine, lysine, phenylalanine, proline, serine, threonine, or valine) or another oxidizable amino acid (such as cysteine, methionine, tryptophan, tyrosine or histidine, listed in order of most easily oxidizable to less readily oxidizable). Likewise, if the desired effect is to alter thermostability, any of the other 20 naturally occurring amino acids may be substituted (i.e., cysteine may be substituted for methionine).

Preferred mutants comprise the substitution of a methionine residue equivalent to any of the methionine residues found in *B. licheniformis* alpha-amylase (+8, +15, +197, +256, +304, +366 and +438). Most preferably the methionine to be replaced is a

methionine at a position equivalent to position + 197 or + 15 in *B. licheniformis* alpha-amylase. Preferred substitute amino acids to replace the methionine at position + 197 are alanine (A), isoleucine (I), threonine (T) or cysteine (C). The preferred substitute amino acids at position + 15 are leucine (L), threonine (T), asparagine (N), aspartate (D), serine (S), valine (V) and isoleucine (I), although other substitute amino acids not specified above may be useful. Two specifically preferred mutants of the present invention are M197T and M15L.

Another embodiment of this invention relates to mutants comprising the substitution of a tryptophan residue equivalent to any of the tryptophan residues found in *B. licheniformis* alpha-amylase (see Fig. 2). Preferably the tryptophan to be replaced is at a position equivalent to + 138 in *B. licheniformis* alpha-amylase. A mutation (substitution) at a tryptophan residue may be made alone or in combination with mutations at other oxidizable amino acid residues. Specifically, it may be advantageous to modify by substitution at least one tryptophan in combination with at least one methionine (for example, the double mutant + 138/+ 197).

The alpha-amylase mutants of the present invention, in general, exhibit altered oxidative stability in the presence of hydrogen peroxide and other oxidants such as bleach or peracids, or, more specific, milder oxidants such as chloramine-T. Mutant enzymes having enhanced oxidative stability will be useful in extending the shelf life and bleach, perborate, percarbonate or peracid compatibility of amylases used in cleaning products. Similarly, reduced oxidative stability may be useful in industrial processes that require the rapid and efficient quenching of enzymatic activity. The mutant enzymes of the present invention may also demonstrate a broadened pH performance profile whereby mutants such as M15L show stability for low pH starch

liquefaction and mutants such as M197T show stability at high pH cleaning product conditions. The mutants of the present invention may also have altered thermal stability whereby the mutant may have enhanced stability at either high or low temperatures. It is understood that any change (increase or decrease) in the mutant's enzymatic characteristic(s), as compared to its precursor, may be beneficial depending on the desired end use of the mutant alpha-amylase.

In addition to starch processing and cleaning applications, variant amylases of the present invention may be used in any application in which known amylases are used, for example, variant amylases can be used in textile processing, food processing, etc. Specifically, it is contemplated that a variant enzyme such as M197C, which is easily inactivated by oxidation, would be useful in a process where it is desirable to completely remove amylase activity at the end of the process, for example, in frozen food processing applications.

The preferred alpha-amylase mutants of the present invention are derived from a *Bacillus* strain such as *B. licheniformis*, *B. amyloliquefaciens*, and *B. stearothermophilus*, and most preferably from *Bacillus licheniformis*.

In another aspect of the present invention there is provided a novel form of the alpha-amylase normally produced by *B. licheniformis*. This novel form, designated as the A4 form, has an additional four alanine residues at the N-terminus of the secreted amylase. (Fig. 4b.) Derivatives or mutants of the A4 form of alpha-amylase are encompassed within the present invention. By derivatives or mutants of the A4 form, it is meant that the present invention comprises the A4 form alpha-amylase containing one or more additional mutations such as, for example, mutation (substitution, replacement or

deletion) of one or more oxidizable amino acid(s).

In a composition embodiment of the present invention there are provided detergent compositions, liquid, gel or granular, comprising the alpha-amylase mutants described herein. Particularly preferred are detergent compositions comprising a +197 position mutant either alone or in combination with other enzymes such as endoglycosidases, cellulases, proteases, lipases or other amylase enzymes. Additionally, it is contemplated that the compositions of the present invention may include an alpha-amylase mutant having more than one site-specific mutation.

In yet another composition embodiment of the present invention there are provided compositions useful in starch processing and particularly starch liquefaction. The starch liquefaction compositions of the present invention preferably comprise an alpha-amylase mutant having a substitution or deletion at position M15. Additionally, it is contemplated that such compositions may comprise additional components as known to those skilled in the art, including, for example, antioxidants, calcium, ions, etc.

In a process aspect of the present invention there are provided methods for liquefying starch, and particularly granular starch slurries, from either a wet or dry milled process. Generally, in the first step of the starch degradation process, the starch slurry is gelatinized by heating at a relatively high temperature (up to about 110°C). After the starch slurry is gelatinized it is liquefied and dextrinized using an alpha-amylase. The conditions for such liquefaction are described in commonly assigned US patent applications 07/785,624 and 07/785,623 and US Patent 5,180,669, the disclosure of which are incorporated herein by reference. The present method for liquefying starch comprises adding to a starch slurry an effective amount of an alpha-amylase of the

present invention, alone or in combination with additional excipients such as an antioxidant, and reacting the slurry for an appropriate time and temperature to liquefy the starch.

A further aspect of the present invention comprises the DNA encoding the mutant alpha-amylases of the present invention (including A4 form and mutants thereof) and expression vectors encoding the DNA as well as host cells transformed with such expression vectors.

Brief Description of the Drawings

Fig. 1 shows the DNA sequence of the gene for alpha-amylase from *B. licheniformis* (NCIB8061), Seq ID No 31, and deduced translation product as described in Gray, G. et al. (1986) *J. Bacter.* **166**:635-643.

Fig. 2 shows the amino acid sequence of the mature alpha-amylase enzyme from *B. licheniformis* (NCIB8061), Seq ID No 32.

Fig. 3 shows an alignment of primary structures of *Bacillus* alpha-amylases. The *B. licheniformis* amylase (Am-Lich), Seq ID No 33, is described by Gray, G. et al. (1986) *J. Bact.* **166**:635-643; the *B. amyloliquefaciens* amylase (Am-Amylo), Seq ID No 34, is described by Takkinen, K. et al. (1983) *J. Biol. Chem.* **258**:1007-1013; and the *B. stearothermophilus* (Am-Stearo), Seq ID No 35, is described by Ihara, H. et al. (1985) *J. Biochem.* **98**:95-103.

Fig. 4a shows the amino acid sequence of the mature alpha-amylase variant M197T, Seq ID No 36.

Fig. 4b shows the amino acid sequence of the A4 form of alpha-amylase from *B. licheniformis* NCIB8061, Seq ID No 37. Numbering is from the N-terminus, starting with the four additional alanines.

Fig. 5 shows plasmid pA4BL wherein BLAA refers to *B. licheniformis* alpha-amylase gene, PstI to SstI; Amp^R refers to the ampicillin-resistant gene from pBR322; and CAT refers to the Chloramphenicol-resistant gene from pC194.

Fig. 6 shows the signal sequence-mature protein junctions for *B. licheniformis* (Seq ID No 38), *B. subtilis* (Seq ID No 39), *B. licheniformis* in pA4BL (Seq ID No 40) and *B. licheniformis* in pBLapr (Seq ID No 41).

Fig. 7a shows inactivation of certain alpha-amylases (Spezyme[®] AA20 and M197L (A4 form) with 0.88M H₂O₂ at pH 5.0, 25°C.

Fig. 7b shows inactivation of certain alpha-amylases (Spezyme[®] AA20, M197T) with 0.88M H₂O₂ at pH 10.0, 25°C.

Fig. 7c shows inactivation of certain alpha-amylases (Spezyme[®] AA20, M15L) with 0.88M H₂O₂ at pH 5.0, 25°C.

Fig. 8 shows a schematic for the production of M197X cassette mutants.

Fig. 9 shows expression of M197X variants.

Fig. 10 shows thermal stability of M197X variants at pH 5.0, 5mM CaCl₂ at 95°C for 5

mins.

Figs. 11a and 11b show inactivation of certain amylases in automatic dish care detergents. Fig. 11a shows the stability of certain amylases in Cascade™ (a commercially available dish care product) at 65°C in the presence or absence of starch. Fig. 11b shows the stability of certain amylases in Sunlight™ (a commercially available dish care product) at 65°C in the presence or absence of starch.

Fig. 12 shows a schematic for the production of M15X cassette mutants.

Fig. 13 shows expression of M15X variants.

Fig. 14 shows specific activity of M15X variants on soluble starch.

Fig. 15 shows heat stability of M15X variants at 90°C, pH 5.0, 5mM CaCl₂, 5 mins.

Fig. 16 shows specific activity on starch and soluble substrate, and performance in jet liquefaction at pH 5.5, of M15 variants as a function of percent activity of *B. licheniformis* wild-type.

Fig. 17 shows the inactivation of *B. licheniformis* alpha-amylase (AA20 at 0.65 mg/ml) with chloramine-T at pH 8.0 as compared to variants M197A (1.7 mg/ml) and M197L (1.7 mg/ml).

Fig. 18 shows the inactivation of *B. licheniformis* alpha-amylase (AA20 at 0.22 mg/ml) with chloramine-T at pH 4.0 as compared to variants M197A (4.3 mg/ml) and M197L

(0.53 mg/ml).

Fig. 19 shows the reaction of *B. licheniformis* alpha-amylase (AA20 at 0.75 mg/ml) with chloramine-T at pH 5.0 as compared to double variants M197T/W138F (0.64 mg/ml) and M197T/W138Y (0.60 mg/ml).

Detailed Description of the Invention

It is believed that amylases used in starch liquefaction may be subject to some form of inactivation due to some activity present in the starch slurry (see commonly owned US applications 07/785,624 and 07/785,623 and US Patent 5,180,669, issued January 19, 1993, incorporated herein by reference). Furthermore, use of an amylase in the presence of oxidants, such as in bleach or peracid containing detergents, may result in partial or complete inactivation of the amylase. Therefore, the present invention focuses on altering the oxidative sensitivity of amylases. The mutant enzymes of the present invention may also have an altered pH profile and/or altered thermal stability which may be due to the enhanced oxidative stability of the enzyme at low or high pH's.

Alpha-amylase as used herein includes naturally occurring amylases as well as recombinant amylases. Preferred amylases in the present invention are alpha-amylases derived from *B. licheniformis* or *B. stearothermophilus*, including the A4 form of alpha-amylase derived from *B. licheniformis* as described herein, as well as fungal alpha-amylases as those derived from *Aspergillus* (i.e. as *A. oryzae* and *A. niger*).

Recombinant alpha-amylases refers to an alpha-amylase in which the DNA sequence encoding the naturally occurring alpha-amylase is modified to produce a mutant DNA

sequence which encodes the substitution, insertion or deletion of one or more amino acids in the alpha-amylase sequence. Suitable modification methods are disclosed herein, and also in commonly owned US Patents 4,760,025 and 5,185,258, the disclosure of which are incorporated herein by reference.

Homologies have been found between almost all endo-amylases sequenced to date, ranging from plants, mammals, and bacteria (Nakajima, R.T. et al. (1986) *Appl. Microbiol. Biotechnol.* **23**:355-360; Rogers, J.C. (1985) *Biochem. Biophys. Res. Commun.* **128**:470-476). There are four areas of particularly high homology in certain *Bacillus* amylases, as shown in Fig. 3, wherein the underlined sections designate the areas of high homology. Further, sequence alignments have been used to map the relationship between *Bacillus* endo-amylases (Feng, D.F. and Doolittle, R.F. (1987) *J. Molec. Evol.* **35**:351-360). The relative sequence homology between *B. stearothermophilus* and *B. licheniformis* amylase is about 66%, as determined by Holm, L. et al. (1990) *Protein Engineering* **3** (3) pp. 181-191. The sequence homology between *B. licheniformis* and *B. amyloliquefaciens* amylases is about 81%, as per Holm, L. et al., *supra*. While sequence homology is important, it is generally recognized that structural homology is also important in comparing amylases or other enzymes. For example, structural homology between fungal amylases and bacterial (*Bacillus*) amylase have been suggested and, therefore, fungal amylases are encompassed within the present invention.

An alpha-amylase mutant has an amino acid sequence which is derived from the amino acid sequence of a precursor alpha-amylase. The precursor alpha-amylases include naturally occurring alpha-amylases and recombinant alpha-amylases (as defined). The amino acid sequence of the alpha-amylase mutant is derived from the precursor alpha-

amylase amino acid sequence by the substitution, deletion or insertion of one or more amino acids of the precursor amino acid sequence. Such modification is of the precursor DNA sequence which encodes the amino acid sequence of the precursor alpha-amylase rather than manipulation of the precursor alpha-amylase enzyme *per se*. Suitable methods for such manipulation of the precursor DNA sequence include methods disclosed herein and in commonly owned US patent 4,760,025 and 5,185,258.

Specific residues corresponding to positions M197, M15 and W138 of *Bacillus licheniformis* alpha-amylase are identified herein for substitution or deletion, as are all methionine, histidine, tryptophan, cysteine and tyrosine positions. The amino acid position number (i.e., + 197) refers to the number assigned to the mature *Bacillus licheniformis* alpha-amylase sequence presented in Fig. 2. The invention, however, is not limited to the mutation of this particular mature alpha-amylase (*B. licheniformis*) but extends to precursor alpha-amylases containing amino acid residues at positions which are equivalent to the particular identified residue in *B. licheniformis* alpha-amylase. A residue (amino acid) of a precursor alpha-amylase is equivalent to a residue of *B. licheniformis* alpha-amylase if it is either homologous (i.e., corresponding in position in either primary or tertiary structure) or analogous to a specific residue or portion of that residue in *B. licheniformis* alpha-amylase (i.e., having the same or similar functional capacity to combine, react, or interact chemically or structurally).

In order to establish homology to primary structure, the amino acid sequence of a precursor alpha-amylase is directly compared to the *B. licheniformis* alpha-amylase primary sequence and particularly to a set of residues known to be invariant to all alpha-amylases for which sequence is known, as seen in Fig. 3. It is possible also to

determine equivalent residues by tertiary structure: crystal structures have been reported for porcine pancreatic alpha-amylase (Buisson, G. et al. (1987) EMBO J. 6:3909-3916); Taka-amylase A from *Aspergillus oryzae* (Matsuura, Y. et al. (1984) J. Biochem. (Tokyo) 95:697-702); and an acid alpha-amylase from *A. niger* (Boel, E. et al. (1990) Biochemistry 29:6244-6249), with the former two structures being similar. There are no published structures for *Bacillus* alpha-amylases, although there are predicted to be common super-secondary structures between glucanases (MacGregor, E.A. & Svensson, B. (1989) Biochem. J. 259:145-152) and a structure for the *B. stearothermophilus* enzyme has been modeled on that of Taka-amylase A (Holm, L. et al. (1990) Protein Engineering 3:181-191). The four highly conserved regions shown in Fig. 3 contain many residues thought to be part of the active-site (Matsuura, Y. et al. (1984) J. Biochem. (Tokyo) 95:697-702; Buisson, G. et al. (1987) EMBO J. 6:3909-3916; Vihinen, M. et al. (1990) J. Biochem. 107:267-272) including, in the *licheniformis* numbering, His105; Arg229; Asp231; His235; Glu261 and Asp328.

Expression vector as used herein refers to a DNA construct containing a DNA sequence which is operably linked to a suitable control sequence capable of effecting the expression of said DNA in a suitable host. Such control sequences may include a promoter to effect transcription, an optional operator sequence to control such transcription, a sequence encoding suitable mRNA ribosome-binding sites, and sequences which control termination of transcription and translation. A preferred promoter is the *B. subtilis* *aprE* promoter. The vector may be a plasmid, a phage particle, or simply a potential genomic insert. Once transformed into a suitable host, the vector may replicate and function independently of the host genome, or may, in some instances, integrate into the genome itself. In the present specification, plasmid and vector are sometimes used interchangeably as the plasmid is the most commonly

used form of vector at present. However, the invention is intended to include such other forms of expression vectors which serve equivalent functions and which are, or become, known in the art.

Host strains (or cells) useful in the present invention generally are procaryotic or eucaryotic hosts and include any transformable microorganism in which the expression of alpha-amylase can be achieved. Specifically, host strains of the same species or genus from which the alpha-amylase is derived are suitable, such as a *Bacillus* strain. Preferably an alpha-amylase negative *Bacillus* strain (genes deleted) and/or an alpha-amylase and protease deleted *Bacillus* strain such as *Bacillus subtilis* strain BG2473 ($\Delta amyE, \Delta apr, \Delta npr$) is used. Host cells are transformed or transfected with vectors constructed using recombinant DNA techniques. Such transformed host cells are capable of either replicating vectors encoding the alpha-amylase and its variants (mutants) or expressing the desired alpha-amylase.

Preferably the mutants of the present invention are secreted into the culture medium during fermentation. Any suitable signal sequence, such as the *aprE* signal peptide, can be used to achieve secretion.

Many of the alpha-amylase mutants of the present invention are useful in formulating various detergent compositions, particularly certain dish care cleaning compositions, especially those cleaning compositions containing known oxidants. Alpha-amylase mutants of the invention can be formulated into known powdered, liquid or gel detergents having pH between 6.5 to 12.0. Suitable granular composition may be made as described in commonly owned US patent applications 07/429,881, 07/533,721 and 07/957,973, all of which are incorporated herein by reference. These

detergent cleaning compositions can also contain other enzymes, such as known proteases, lipases, cellulases, endoglycosidases or other amylases, as well as builders, stabilizers or other excipients known to those skilled in the art. These enzymes can be present as co-granules or as blended mixes or in any other manner known to those skilled in the art. Furthermore, it is contemplated by the present invention that multiple mutants may be useful in cleaning or other applications. For example, a mutant enzyme having changes at both +15 and +197 may exhibit enhanced performance useful in a cleaning product or a multiple mutant comprising changes at +197 and +138 may have improved performance.

As described previously, alpha-amylase mutants of the present invention may also be useful in the liquefaction of starch. Starch liquefaction, particularly granular starch slurry liquefaction, is typically carried out at near neutral pH's and high temperatures. As described in commonly owned US applications 07/788,624 and 07/785,623 and US Patent 5,180,669, it appears that an oxidizing agent or inactivating agent of some sort is also present in typical liquefaction processes, which may affect the enzyme activity; thus, in these related patent applications an antioxidant is added to the process to protect the enzyme.

Based on the conditions of a preferred liquefaction process, as described in commonly owned US applications 07/788,624 and 07/785,623 and US Patent 5,180,669, namely low pH, high temperature and potential oxidation conditions, preferred mutants of the present invention for use in liquefaction processes comprise mutants exhibiting altered pH performance profiles (i.e., low pH profile, pH < 6 and preferably pH < 5.5), and/or altered thermal stability (i.e., high temperature, about 90°-110°C), and/or altered oxidative stability (i.e., enhanced oxidative stability).

Thus, an improved method for liquefying starch is taught by the present invention, the method comprising liquefying a granular starch slurry from either a wet or dry milling process at a pH from about 4 to 6 by adding an effective amount of an alpha-amylase mutant of the present invention to the starch slurry; optionally adding an effective amount of an antioxidant or other excipient to the slurry; and reacting the slurry for an appropriate time and temperature to liquefy the starch.

The following is presented by way of example and is not to be construed as a limitation to the scope of the claims. Abbreviations used herein, particularly three letter or one letter notations for amino acids are described in Dale, J.W., Molecular Genetics of Bacteria, John Wiley & Sons, (1989) Appendix B.

Experimental

Example 1

Substitutions for the Methionine Residues in *B. licheniformis* Alpha-Amylase

The alpha-amylase gene (Fig. 1) was cloned from *B. licheniformis* NCIB8061 obtained from the National Collection of Industrial Bacteria, Aberdeen, Scotland (Gray, G. et al. (1986) J. Bacteriology 166:635-643). The 1.72kb PstI-SstI fragment, encoding the last three residues of the signal sequence; the entire mature protein and the terminator region was subcloned into M13MP18. A synthetic terminator was added between the BclI and SstI sites using a synthetic oligonucleotide cassette of the form:

BclI		SstI
5' GATCAAAACATAAAAAACCGGCCTTGGCCCCGCCGGTTTTTATTATTTTGAGCT		3'
3' TTTTGTATTTTTGGCCGGAACCGGGGCGGCCAAAAATAATAAAAAC		5'

Seq ID No 1

designed to contain the *B. amyloliquefaciens* subtilisin transcriptional terminator (Wells

et al. (1983) Nucleic Acid Research 11:7911-7925).

Site-directed mutagenesis by oligonucleotides used essentially the protocol of Zoller, M. et al. (1983) Meth. Enzymol. 100:468-500: briefly, 5'-phosphorylated oligonucleotide primers were used to introduce the desired mutations on the M13 single-stranded DNA template using the oligonucleotides listed in Table I to substitute for each of the seven methionines found in *B. licheniformis* alpha-amylase. Each mutagenic oligonucleotide also introduced a restriction endonuclease site to use as a screen for the linked mutation.

TABLE I

Mutagenic Oligonucleotides for the Substitution of the
Methionine Residues in *B. licheniformis* Alpha-Amylase

5'-T GGG ACG CTG GCG <u>CAG</u> TAC TTT GAA TGG T-3' ScaI+	M8A	Seq ID No 2
5'-TG ATG <u>CAG</u> TAC TTT GAA TGG <u>TAC</u> CTG CCC AAT GA-3' ScaI+ KpnI+	M15L	Seq ID No 3
5'-GAT TAT TTG <u>TTG</u> TAT GCC <u>GAT</u> ATC GAC TAT GAC CAT-3' EcoRV+	M197L	Seq ID No 4
5'-CG GGG AAG GAG <u>GCC</u> TTT ACG GTA GCT-3' StuI+	M256A	Seq ID No 5
5'-GC GGC TAT GAC <u>TTA</u> AGG AAA TTG C-3' AflII+	M304L	Seq ID No 6
5'-C TAC GGG GAT <u>GCA</u> TAC GGG ACG A-3' NsiI+	M366A	Seq ID No 7
5'-C TAC GGG GAT TAC TAC GGG <u>ACC</u> AAG GGA GAC TCC C-3' StyI+	M366Y	Seq ID No 8
5'-CC GGT GGG <u>GCC</u> AAG CGG <u>GCC</u> TAT GTT GGC CGG CAA A-3' SfiI+	M438A	Seq ID No 9

Bold letter indicate base changes introduced by oligonucleotide.

Codon changes indicated in the form M8A, where methionine (M) at position +8 has been changed to alanine (A).

Underlining indicates restriction endonuclease site introduced by oligonucleotide.

The heteroduplex was used to transfect *E. coli* mutL cells (Kramer et al. (1984) Cell 38:879) and, after plaque-purification, clones were analyzed by restriction analysis of

the RF1's. Positives were confirmed by dideoxy sequencing (Sanger et al. (1977) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A. 74:5463-5467) and the PstI-SstI fragments for each subcloned into an *E. coli* vector, plasmid pA4BL.

Plasmid pA4BL

Following the methods described in US application 860,468 (Power et al.), which is incorporated herein by reference, a silent PstI site was introduced at codon +1 (the first amino-acid following the signal cleavage site) of the *aprE* gene from pS168-1 (Stahl, M.L. and Ferrari, E. (1984) J. Bacter. 158:411-418). The *aprE* promoter and signal peptide region was then cloned out of a pJH101 plasmid (Ferrari, F.A. et al. (1983) J. Bacter. 154:1513-1515) as a HindIII-PstI fragment and subcloned into the pUC18-derived plasmid JM102 (Ferrari, E. and Hoch, J.A. (1989) *Bacillus*, ed. C.R. Harwood, Plenum Pub., pp. 57-72). Addition of the PstI-SstI fragment from *B. licheniformis* alpha-amylase gave pA4BL (Fig. 5) having the resulting *aprE* signal peptide-amylase junction as shown in Fig. 6.

Transformation Into *B. subtilis*

pA4BL is a plasmid able to replicate in *E. coli* and integrate into the *B. subtilis* chromosome. Plasmids containing different variants were transformed into *B. subtilis* (Anagnostopoulos, C. and Spizizen, J. (1961) J. Bacter. 81:741-746) and integrated into the chromosome at the *aprE* locus by a Campbell-type mechanism (Young, M. (1984) J. Gen. Microbiol. 130:1613-1621). The *Bacillus subtilis* strain BG2473 was a derivative of I168 which had been deleted for amylase ($\Delta amyE$) and two proteases (Δapr , Δnpr) (Stahl, M.L. and Ferrari, E., J. Bacter. 158:411-418 and US Patent 5,264,366, incorporated herein by reference). After transformation the *sacU32(Hy)* (Henner, D.J. et al. (1988) J. Bacter. 170:296-300) mutation was introduced by PBS-1

mediated transduction (Hoch, J.A. (1983) 154:1513-1515).

N-terminal analysis of the amylase expressed from pA4BL in *B. subtilis* showed it to be processed having four extra alanines at the N-terminus of the secreted amylase protein ("A4 form"). These extra residues had no significant, deleterious effect on the activity or thermal stability of the A4 form and in some applications may enhance performance. In subsequent experiments the correctly processed forms of the *licheniformis* amylase and the variant M197T were made from a very similar construction (see Fig. 6). Specifically, the 5' end of the A4 construction was subcloned on an EcoRI-SstII fragment, from pA4BL (Fig. 5) into M13BM20 (Boehringer Mannheim) in order to obtain a coding-strand template for the mutagenic oligonucleotide below:

5'-CAT CAG CGT CCC ATT AAG ATT TGC AGC CTG CGC AGA CAT GTT
GCT-3'

Seq ID No 10

This primer eliminated the codons for the extra four N-terminal alanines, correct forms being screened for by the absence of the PstI site. Subcloning the EcoRI-SstII fragment back into the pA4BL vector (Fig. 5) gave plasmid pBLapr. The M197T substitution could then be moved, on a SstII-SstI fragment, out of pA4BL (M197T) into the complementary pBLapr vector to give plasmid pBLapr (M197T). N-terminal analysis of the amylase expressed from pBLapr in *B. subtilis* showed it to be processed with the same N-terminus found in *B. licheniformis* alpha-amylase.

Example 2

Oxidative Sensitivity of Methionine Variants

B. licheniformis alpha-amylase, such as Spezyme® AA20 (commercially available from Genencor International, Inc.), is inactivated rapidly in the presence of hydrogen peroxide (Fig. 7). Various methionine variants were expressed in shake-flask cultures of *B. subtilis* and the crude supernatants purified by ammonium sulphate cuts. The amylase was precipitated from a 20% saturated ammonium sulphate supernatant by raising the ammonium sulphate to 70% saturated, and then resuspended. The variants were then exposed to 0.88M hydrogen peroxide at pH 5.0, at 25°C. Variants at six of the methionine positions in *B. licheniformis* alpha-amylase were still subject to oxidation by peroxide while the substitution at position +197 (M197L) showed resistance to peroxide oxidation. (See Fig. 7.) However, subsequent analysis described in further detail below showed that while a variant may be susceptible to oxidation at pH 5.0, 25°C, it may exhibit altered/enhanced properties under different conditions (i.e., liquefaction).

Example 3

Construction of All Possible Variants at Position 197

All of the M197 variants (M197X) were produced in the A4 form by cassette mutagenesis, as outlined in Fig. 8:

1) Site directed mutagenesis (via primer extension in M13) was used to make M197A using the mutagenic oligonucleotide below:

M197A
5'-GAT TAT TTG GCG TAT GCC GAT ATC GAC TAT GAC CAT-3'
EcoRV+
_____Clal- Seq ID No 11

which also inserted an EcoRV site (codons 200-201) to replace the *Clal* site (codons 201-202).

(codons 201-202).

- 2) Then primer LAAM12 (Table II) was used to introduce another silent restriction site (BstBI) over codons 186-188.
- 3) The resultant M197A (BstBI +, EcoRV +) variant was then subcloned (PstI-SstI fragment) into plasmid pA4BL and the resultant plasmid digested with BstBI and EcoRV and the large vector-containing fragment isolated by electroelution from agarose gel.
- 4) Synthetic primers LAAM14-30 (Table II) were each annealed with the largely complementary common primer LAAM13 (Table II). The resulting cassettes encoded for all the remaining naturally occurring amino acids at position +197 and were ligated, individually, into the vector fragment prepared above.

TABLE II

Synthetic Oligonucleotides Used for Cassette Mutagenesis to Produce M197X Variants

LAAM12	GG GAA <u>GTT</u> TCG AAT GAA AAC G	Seq ID No 12
LAAM13	X197bs (EcoRV) <u>GTC</u> GGC ATA <u>TG</u> CAT ATA ATC ATA GTT GCC GTT TTC ATT (BstBI)	Seq ID No 13
LAAM14	I197 (BstBI) CG AAT GAA AAC GGC AAC TAT GAT TAT TTG <u>ATC</u> TAT GCC <u>GAC</u> (EcoRV-)	Seq ID No 14
LAAM15	F197 (BstBI) CG AAT GAA AAC GGC AAC TAT GAT TAT TTG <u>TTC</u> TAT GCC <u>GAC</u> (EcoRV-)	Seq ID No 15
LAAM16	V197 (BstBI) CG AAT GAA AAC GGC AAC TAT GAT TAT TTG <u>GTT</u> TAT GCC <u>GAC</u> (EcoRV-)	Seq ID No 16
LAAM17	S197 (BstBI) CG AAT GAA AAC GGC AAC TAT GAT TAT TTG <u>AGC</u> TAT GCC <u>GAC</u> (EcoRV-)	Seq ID No 17
LAAM18	P197 (BstBI) CG AAT GAA AAC GGC AAC TAT GAT TAT TTG <u>CCT</u> TAT GCC <u>GAC</u> (EcoRV-)	Seq ID No 18
LAAM19	T197 (BstBI) CG AAT GAA AAC GGC AAC TAT GAT TAT TTG <u>ACA</u> TAT GCC <u>GAC</u> (EcoRV-)	Seq ID No 19
LAAM20	Y197 (BstBI) CG AAT GAA AAC GGC AAC TAT GAT TAT TTG <u>TAC</u> TAT GCC <u>GAC</u> (EcoRV-)	Seq ID No 20

LAAM21	H197 (BstBI) CG AAT GAA AAC GGC AAC TAT GAT TAT TTG <u>CAC</u> TAT GCC GAC	Seq ID No 21 (EcoRV-)
LAAM22	G197 (BstBI) CG AAT GAA AAC GGC AAC TAT GAT TAT TTG <u>GGC</u> TAT GCC GAC	Seq ID No 22 (EcoRV-)
LAAM23	Q197 (BstBI) CG AAT GAA AAC GGC AAC TAT GAT TAT TTG <u>CAA</u> TAT GCC GAC	Seq ID No 23 (EcoRV-)
LAAM24	N197 (BstBI) CG AAT GAA AAC GGC AAC TAT GAT TAT TTG <u>AAC</u> TAT GCC GAC	Seq ID No 24 (EcoRV-)
LAAM25	K197 (BstBI) CG AAT GAA AAC GGC AAC TAT GAT TAT TTG <u>AAA</u> TAT GCC GAC	Seq ID No 25 (EcoRV-)
LAAM26	D197 (BstBI) CG AAT GAA AAC GGC AAC TAT GAT TAT TTG <u>GAT</u> TAT GCC GAC	Seq ID No 26 (EcoRV-)
LAAM27	E197 (BstBI) CG AAT GAA AAC GGC AAC TAT GAT TAT TTG <u>GAA</u> TAT GCC GAC	Seq ID No 27 (EcoRV-)
LAAM28	C197 (BstBI) CG AAT GAA AAC GGC AAC TAT GAT TAT TTG <u>TGT</u> TAT GCC GAC	Seq ID No 28 (EcoRV-)
LAAM29	W197 (BstBI) CG AAT GAA AAC GGC AAC TAT GAT TAT TTG <u>TGG</u> TAT GCC GAC	Seq ID No 29 (EcoRV-)
LAAM30	R197 (BstBI) CG AAT GAA AAC GGC AAC TAT GAT TAT TTG <u>AGA</u> TAT GCC GAC	Seq ID No 30 (EcoRV-)

The cassettes were designed to destroy the EcoRV site upon ligation, thus plasmids from *E. coli* transformants were screened for loss of this unique site. In addition, the common bottom strand of the cassette contained a frame-shift and encoded a NsI site, thus transformants derived from this strand could be eliminated by screening for the presence of the unique NsI site and would not be expected, in any case, to lead to expression of active amylase.

Positives by restriction analysis were confirmed by sequencing and transformed in *B. subtilis* for expression in shake-flask cultures (Fig. 9). The specific activity of certain of the M197X mutants was then determined using a soluble substrate assay. The data generated using the following assay methods are presented below in Table III.

Soluble Substrate Assay: A rate assay was developed based on an end-point assay kit

supplied by Megazyme (Aust.) Pty. Ltd.: Each vial of substrate (p-nitrophenyl maltoheptaoside, BPNPG7) was dissolved in 10ml of sterile water, followed by a 1 to 4 dilution in assay buffer (50mM maleate buffer, pH 6.7, 5mM calcium chloride, 0.002% Tween20). Assays were performed by adding 10 μ l of amylase to 790 μ l of the substrate in a cuvette at 25°C. Rates of hydrolysis were measured as the rate of change of absorbance at 410nm, after a delay of 75 seconds. The assay was linear up to rates of 0.4 absorption units/min.

The amylase protein concentration was measured using the standard Bio-Rad assay (Bio-Rad Laboratories) based on the method of Bradford, M. (1976) Anal. Biochem. 72:248) using bovine serum albumin standards.

Starch Hydrolysis Assay: The standard method for assaying the alpha-amylase activity of Spezyme® AA20 was used. This method is described in detail in Example 1 of USSN 07/785,624, incorporated herein by reference. Native starch forms a blue color with iodine but fails to do so when it is hydrolyzed into shorter dextrin molecules. The substrate is soluble Lintner starch 5gm/liter in phosphate buffer, pH 6.2 (42.5gm/liter potassium dihydrogen phosphate, 3.16gm/liter sodium hydroxide). The sample is added in 25mM calcium chloride and activity is measured as the time taken to give a negative iodine test upon incubation at 30°C. Activity is recorded in liquefons per gram or ml (LU) calculated according to the formula:

$$\text{LU/ml or LU/g} = \frac{570}{V \times t} \times D$$

Where LU = liquefon unit

V = volume of sample (5ml)

t = dextrinization time (minutes)

D = dilution factor = dilution volume/ml or g of added enzyme.

TABLE III

<u>ALPHA-AMYLASE</u>	<u>SPECIFIC ACTIVITY (as % of AA20 value) on:</u>	
	<u>Soluble Substrate</u>	<u>Starch</u>
Spezyme® AA20	100	100
A4 form	105	115
M15L (A4 form)	93	94
M15L	85	103
M197T (A4 form)	75	83
M197T	62	81
M197A (A4 form)	88	89
M197C	85	85
M197L (A4 form)	51	17

Example 4Characterization of Variant M15L

Variant M15L made as per the prior examples did not show increased amylase activity (Table III) and was still inactivated by hydrogen peroxide (Fig. 7). It did, however, show significantly increased performance in jet-liquefaction of starch, especially at low pH as shown in Table IV below.

Starch liquefaction was typically performed using a Hydroheater M 103-M steam jet equipped with a 2.5 liter delay coil behind the mixing chamber and a terminal back pressure valve. Starch was fed to the jet by a Moyno pump and steam was supplied by a 150 psi steam line, reduced to 90-100 psi. Temperature probes were installed just after the Hydroheater jet and just before the back pressure valve.

Starch slurry was obtained from a corn wet miller and used within two days. The starch was diluted to the desired solids level with deionized water and the pH of the starch was adjusted with 2% NaOH or saturated Na₂CO₃. Typical liquefaction conditions were:

Starch	32%-35% solids
Calcium	40-50 ppm (30 ppm added)
pH	5.0-6.0
Alpha-amylase	12-14 LU/g starch dry basis

Starch was introduced into the jet at about 350 ml/min. The jet temperature was held at 105°-107°C. Samples of starch were transferred from the jet cooker to a 95°C second stage liquefaction and held for 90 minutes.

The degree of starch liquefaction was measured immediately after the second stage liquefaction by determining the dextrose equivalence (DE) of the sample and by testing for the presence of raw starch, both according to the methods described in the Standard Analytical Methods of the Member Companies of the Corn Refiners Association, Inc., sixth edition. Starch, when treated generally under the conditions given above and at pH 6.0, will yield a liquefied starch with a DE of about 10 and with no raw starch. Results of starch liquefaction tests using mutants of the present invention are provided in Table IV.

TABLE IV
Performance of
variants M15L (A4 form) and M15L in Starch Liquefaction

	<u>pH</u>	<u>DE after 90 Mins.</u>
Spezyme® AA20	5.9	9.9
M15L (A4 form)	5.9	10.4
Spezyme® AA20	5.2	1.2
M15L (A4 form)	5.2	2.2
Spezyme® AA20	5.9	9.3*
M15L	5.9	11.3*
Spezyme® AA20	5.5	3.25**
M15L	5.5	6.7**
Spezyme® AA20	5.2	0.7**
M15L	5.2	3.65**

* average of three experiments

** average of two experiments

Example 5

Construction of M15X Variants

Following generally the processes described in Example 3 above, all variants at M15 (M15X) were produced in native *B. licheniformis* by cassette mutagenesis, as outlined in Fig. 12:

1) Site directed mutagenesis (via primer extension in M13) was used to introduce unique restriction sites flanking the M15 codon to facilitate insertion of a mutagenesis cassette. Specifically, a BstB1 site at codons 11-13 and a Msc1 site at codons 18-20 were introduced using the two oligonucleotides shown below.

M15XBstB1 5'-G ATG CAG TAT TTC GAA CTGG TAT A-3'
 BstB1 Seq ID No 48

M15XMsc1 5'-TG CCC AAT GAT GGC CAA CAT TGG AAG-3'
 Msc1 Seq ID No 49

2) The vector for M15X cassette mutagenesis was then constructed by subcloning the Sfi1-SstII fragment from the mutagenized amylase (BstB1 +, Msc1 +) into plasmid pBLapr. The resulting plasmid was then digested with BstB1 and Msc1 and the large vector fragment isolated by electroelution from a polyacrylamide gel.

3) Mutagenesis cassettes were created as with the M197X variants. Synthetic oligomers, each encoding a substitution at codon 15, were annealed to a common bottom primer. Upon proper ligation of the cassette to the vector, the Msc1 is destroyed allowing for screening of positive transformants by loss of this site. The bottom primer contains an unique SnaB1 site allowing for the transformants derived from the bottom strand to be eliminated by screening for the SnaB1 site. This primer also contains a frameshift which would also eliminate amylase expression for the mutants derived from the common bottom strand.

The synthetic cassettes are listed in Table V and the general cassette mutagenesis strategy is illustrated in Figure 12.

TABLE V

Synthetic Oligonucleotides Used for Cassette Mutagenesis
to Produce M15X Variants

M15A (BstB1)	C GAA TGG TAT <u>GCT</u> CCC AAT GAC GG (Mscl)	Seq ID No 50
M15R (BstB1)	C GAA TGG TAT <u>CGC</u> CCC AAT GAC GG (Mscl)	Seq ID No 51
M15N (BstB1)	C GAA TGG TAT <u>AAT</u> CCC AAT GAC GG (Mscl)	Seq ID No 52
M15D (BstB1)	C GAA TGG TAT <u>GAT</u> CCC AAT GAC GG (Mscl)	Seq ID No 53
M15H (BstB1)	C GAA TGG TAT <u>CAC</u> CCC AAT GAC GG (Mscl)	Seq ID No 54
M15K (BstB1)	C GAA TGG TAT <u>AAA</u> CCC AAT GAC GG (Mscl)	Seq ID No 55
M15P (BstB1)	C GAA TGG TAT <u>CCG</u> CCC AAT GAC GG (Mscl)	Seq ID No 56
M15S (BstB1)	C GAA TGG TAT <u>TCT</u> CCC AAT GAC GG (Mscl)	Seq ID No 57
M15T (BstB1)	C GAA TGG TAC <u>ACT</u> CCC AAT GAC GG (Mscl)	Seq ID No 58
M15V (BstB1)	C GAA TGG TAT <u>GTT</u> CCC AAT GAC GG (Mscl)	Seq ID No 59
M15C (BstB1)	C GAA TGG TAT <u>TGT</u> CCC AAT GAC GG (Mscl)	Seq ID No 60
M15Q (BstB1)	C GAA TGG TAT <u>CAA</u> CCC AAT GAC GG (Mscl)	Seq ID No 61
M15E (BstB1)	C GAA TGG TAT <u>GAA</u> CCC AAT GAC GG (Mscl)	Seq ID No 62
M15G (BstB1)	C GAA TGG TAT <u>GGT</u> CCC AAT GAC GG (Mscl)	Seq ID No 63
M15I (BstB1)	C GAA TGG TAT <u>ATT</u> CCC AAT GAC GG (Mscl)	Seq ID No 64
M15F (BstB1)	C GAA TGG TAT <u>TTT</u> CCC AAT GAC GG (Mscl)	Seq ID No 65
M15W (BstB1)	C GAA TGG TAC <u>TGG</u> CCC AAT GAC GG (Mscl)	Seq ID No 66
M15Y (BstB1)	C GAA TGG TAT <u>TAT</u> CCC AAT GAC GG (Mscl)	Seq ID No 67
M15X (Mscl)	CC GTC ATT GGG ACT ACG TAC CAT T (BstB1) (bottom strand)	Seq ID No 68

Underline indicates codon changes at amino acid position 15.

Conservative substitutions were made in some cases to prevent introduction of new restriction sites.

Example 6Bench Liquefaction with M15X Variants

Eleven alpha-amylase variants with substitutions for M15 made as per Example 5 were assayed for activity, as compared to Spezyme® AA20 (commercially available from Genencor International, Inc.) in liquefaction at pH 5.5 using a bench liquefaction system. The bench scale liquefaction system consisted of a stainless steel coil (0.25 inch diameter, approximately 350 ml volume) equipped with a 7 inch long static mixing element approximately 12 inches from the anterior end and a 30 psi back pressure valve at the posterior end. The coil, except for each end, was immersed in a glycerol-water bath equipped with thermostatically controlled heating elements that maintained the bath at 105-106°C.

Starch slurry containing enzyme, maintained in suspension by stirring, was introduced into the reaction coil by a piston driven metering pump at about 70 ml/min. The starch was recovered from the end of the coil and was transferred to the secondary hold (95°C for 90 minutes). Immediately after the secondary hold, the DE of the liquefied starch was determined, as described in Example 4. The results are shown in Fig. 16.

Example 7Characterization of M197X Variants

As can be seen in Fig. 9, there was a wide range of amylase activity (measured in the soluble substrate assay) expressed by the M197X (A4 form) variants. The amylases were partially purified from the supernatants by precipitation with two volumes of ethanol and resuspension. They were then screened for thermal stability (Fig. 10) by heating at 95°C for 5 minutes in 10mM acetate buffer pH 5.0, in the presence of 5mM calcium chloride; the A4 wild-type retained 28% of its activity after incubation. For

M197W and M197P we were unable to recover active protein from the supernatants. Upon sequencing, the M197H variant was found to contain a second mutation, N190K. M197L was examined in a separate experiment and was one of the lowest thermally stable variants. There appears to be a broad correlation between expression of amylase activity and thermal stability. The *licheniformis* amylase is restricted in what residues it can accommodate at position 197 in terms of retaining or enhancing thermal stability: cysteine and threonine are preferred for maximal thermal stability under these conditions whereas alanine and isoleucine are of intermediate stability. However, other substitutions at position +197 result in lowered thermal stability which may be useful for other applications. Additionally, different substitutions at +197 may have other beneficial properties, such as altered pH performance profile or altered oxidative stability. For example, the M197C variant was found to inactivate readily by air oxidation but had enhanced thermal stability. Conversely, compared to the M197L variant, both M197T and M197A retained not only high thermal stability (Fig. 10), but also high activity (Table III), while maintaining resistance to inactivation by peroxide at pH 5 to pH 10 (Fig. 7).

Example 8

Stability and Performance in Detergent Formulation

The stability of the M197T (A4 form), M197T and M197A (A4 form) was measured in automatic dish care detergent (ADD) matrices. 2ppm Savinase™ (a protease, commercially available from Novo Industries, of the type commonly used in ADD) were added to two commercially available bleach-containing ADD's: Cascade™ (Procter and Gamble, Ltd.) and Sunlight™ (Unilever) and the time course of inactivation of the amylase variants and Termamyl™ (a thermally stable alpha-amylase available from Novo Nordisk, A/S) followed at 65°C. The concentration of ADD product used in both cases

was equivalent to 'pre-soak' conditions: 14gm product per liter of water (7 grams per gallon hardness). As can be seen (Figs. 11a and 11b), both forms of the M197T variant were much more stable than Termamyl™ and M197A (A4 form), which were inactivated before the first assay could be performed. This stability benefit was seen in the presence or absence of starch as determined by the following protocol. Amylases were added to 5ml of ADD and Savinase™, prewarmed in a test tube and, after vortexing, activities were assayed as a function of time, using the soluble substrate assay. The "+ starch" tube had spaghetti starch baked onto the sides (140°C, 60 mins.). The results are shown in Figs. 11a and 11b.

Example 9

Characterization of M15X Variants

All M15X variants were propagated in *Bacillus subtilis* and the expression level monitored as shown in Fig. 13. The amylase was isolated and partially purified by a 20-70% ammonium sulfate cut. The specific activity of these variants on the soluble substrate was determined as per Example 3 (Fig. 14). Many of the M15X amylases have specific activities greater than that of Spezyme® AA20. A benchtop heat stability assay was performed on the variants by heating the amylase at 90°C for 5 min. in 50 mM acetate buffer pH 5 in the presence of 5 mM CaCl₂ (Fig. 15). Most of the variants performed as well as Spezyme® AA20 in this assay. Those variants that exhibited reasonable stability in this assay (reasonable stability defined as those that retained at least about 60% of Spezyme® AA20's heat stability) were tested for specific activity on starch and for liquefaction performance at pH 5.5. The most interesting of those mutants are shown in Fig. 16. M15D, N and T, along with L, outperformed Spezyme® AA20 in liquefaction at pH 5.5 and have increased specific activities in both the soluble substrate and starch hydrolysis assays.

Generally, we have found that by substituting for the methionine at position 15, we can provide variants with increased low pH-liquefaction performance and/or increased specific activity.

Example 10

Tryptophan Sensitivity to Oxidation

Chloramine-T (sodium N-chloro-*p*-toluenesulfonimide) is a selective oxidant, which oxidizes methionine to methionine sulfoxide at neutral or alkaline pH. At acidic pH, chloramine-T will modify both methionine and tryptophan (Schechter, Y., Burstein, Y. and Patchornik, A. (1975) Biochemistry 14 (20) 4497-4503). Fig. 17 shows the inactivation of *B. licheniformis* alpha-amylase with chloramine-T at pH 8.0 (AA20 = 0.65 mg/ml, M197A = 1.7 mg/ml, M197L = 1.7 mg/ml). The data shows that by changing the methionine at position 197 to leucine or alanine, the inactivation of alpha-amylase can be prevented. Conversely, as shown in Fig. 18, at pH 4.0 inactivation of the M197A and M197L proceeds, but require more equivalents of chloramine-T (Fig. 18; AA20 = 0.22 mg/ml, M197A = 4.3 mg/ml, M197L = 0.53 mg/ml; 200 mM NaAcetate at pH 4.0). This suggests that a tryptophan residue is also implicated in the chloramine-T mediated inactivation event. Furthermore, tryptic mapping and subsequent amino acid sequencing indicated that the tryptophan at position 138 was oxidized by chloramine-T (data not shown). To prove this, site-directed mutants were made at tryptophan 138 as provided below:

Preparation of Alpha-Amylase Double Mutants W138 and M197

Certain variants of W138 (F, Y and A) were made as double mutants, with M197T (made as per the disclosure of Example 3). The double mutants were made following the methods described in Examples 1 and 3. Generally, single negative strands of DNA

were prepared from an M13MP18 clone of the 1.72kb coding sequence (Pst I-Sst I) of the *B. licheniformis* alpha-amylase M197T mutant. Site-directed mutagenesis was done using the primers listed below, essentially by the method of Zoller, M. et al. (1983) except T4 gene 32 protein and T4 polymerase were substituted for klenow. The primers all contained unique sites, as well as the desired mutation, in order to identify those clones with the appropriate mutation.

Tryptophan 138 to Phenylalanine

133 134 135 136 137 138 139 140 141 142 143
CAC CTA ATT AAA GCT TTC ACA CAT TTT CAT TTT
Hind III

Seq ID No 42

Tryptophan 138 to Tyrosine

133 134 135 136 137 138 139 140 141 142 143
CAC CTA ATT AAA GCT TAC ACA CAT TTT CAT TTT
Hind III

Seq ID No 43

Tryptophan 138 to Alanine - This primer also engineers unique sites upstream and downstream of the 138 position.

127 128 129 130 131 132 133 134 135 136 137 138 139 140 141 142
C CGC GTA ATT TCC GGA GAA CAC CTA ATT AAA GCC GCA ACA CAT TTT CAT
BspE I

143 144 145 146 147
TTT CCC GGG CGC GGC AG
Xma I

Seq ID No 44

Mutants were identified by restriction analysis and W138F and W138Y confirmed by DNA sequencing. The W138A sequence revealed a nucleotide deletion between the unique BspE I and Xma I sites, however, the rest of the gene sequenced correctly. The 1.37kb SstII/SstI fragment containing both W138X and M197T mutations was moved from M13MP18 into the expression vector pBLapr resulting in pBLapr (W138F, M197T) and pBLapr (W138Y, M197T). The fragment containing unique BspE I and Xma I sites was cloned into pBLapr (BspE I, Xma I, M197T) since it is useful for cloning cassettes containing other amino acid substitutions at position 138.

Single Mutations at Amino Acid Position 138

Following the general methods described in the prior examples, certain single variants of W138 (F, Y, L, H and C) were made.

The 1.24kb Asp718-SstI fragment containing the M197T mutation in plasmid pBLapr (W138X, M197T) of Example 7 was replaced by the wild-type fragment with methionine at 197, resulting in pBLapr (W138F), pBLapr (W138Y) and pBLapr (BspE I, Xma I).

The mutants W138L, W138H and W138C were made by ligating synthetic cassettes into the pBLapr (BspE I, Xma I) vector using the following primers:

Tryptophan 138 to Leucine

CC GGA GAA CAC CTA ATT AAA GCC **CTA** ACA CAT TTT CAT TTT C
Seq ID No 45

Tryptophan 138 to Histidine

CC GGA GAA CAC CTA ATT AAA GCC **CAC** ACA CAT TTT CAT TTT C
Seq ID No 46

Tryptophan 138 to Cysteine

CC GGA GAA CAC CTA ATT AAA GCC **TGC** ACA CAT TTT CAT TTT C
Seq ID No 47

Reaction of the double mutants M197T/W138F and M197T/W138Y with chloramine-T was compared with wild-type (AA20 = 0.75 mg/ml, M197T/W138F = 0.64 mg/ml, M197T/W138Y = 0.60 mg/ml; 50 mM NaAcetate at pH 5.0). The results shown in Fig. 19 show that mutagenesis of tryptophan 138 has caused the variant to be more resistant to chloramine-T.

SEQUENCE LISTING

(1) GENERAL INFORMATION:

- (i) APPLICANT: GENENCOR INTERNATIONAL, INC.
- (ii) TITLE OF INVENTION: Oxidatively Stable Alpha-Amylase
- (iii) NUMBER OF SEQUENCES: 68
- (iv) CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS:
 - (A) ADDRESSEE: Genencor International, Inc.
 - (B) STREET: 180 Kimball Way
 - (C) CITY: South San Francisco
 - (D) STATE: CA
 - (E) COUNTRY: USA
 - (F) ZIP: 94080
- (v) COMPUTER READABLE FORM:
 - (A) MEDIUM TYPE: Floppy disk
 - (B) COMPUTER: IBM PC compatible
 - (C) OPERATING SYSTEM: PC-DOS/MS-DOS
 - (D) SOFTWARE: PatentIn Release #1.0, Version #1.25
- (vi) CURRENT APPLICATION DATA:
 - (A) APPLICATION NUMBER:
 - (B) FILING DATE:
 - (C) CLASSIFICATION:
- (viii) ATTORNEY/AGENT INFORMATION:
 - (A) NAME: Horn, Margaret A.
 - (B) REGISTRATION NUMBER: 33,401
 - (C) REFERENCE/DOCKET NUMBER: GC220-2
- (ix) TELECOMMUNICATION INFORMATION:
 - (A) TELEPHONE: (415) 742-7536
 - (B) TELEFAX: (415) 742-7217

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:1:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 56 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
- (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:1:

GATCAAAACA TAAAAAAACCG GCCTTGGCCC CGCCGGTTTT TTATTATTTTGAGCT

56

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:2:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 29 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:2:

TGGGACGCTG GCGCAGTACT TTGAATGGT

29

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:3:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
- (A) LENGTH: 34 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:3:

TGATGCACTA CTTTGAATGG TACCTGCCCA ATGA

34

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:4:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
- (A) LENGTH: 36 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:4:

GATTATTTGT TGTATGCCGA TATCGACTAT GACCAT

36

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:5:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
- (A) LENGTH: 26 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:5:

CGGGGAACGA GGCCTTACG GTAGCT

26

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:6:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
- (A) LENGTH: 24 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

38

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:6:

GCGGCTATGA CTTAAGGAAA TTGC

24

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:7:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 23 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:7:

CTACGGGGAT GCATACGGGA CGA

23

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:8:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 35 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:8:

CTACGGGGAT TACTACGGGA CCAAGGGAGA CTCCC

35

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:9:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 36 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:9:

CCGGTGGGGC CAAGCGGGCC TATGTTGGCC GGCAA

36

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:10:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 45 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:10:

CATCAGCGTC CCATTAAGAT TTGCAGCCTG CGCAGACATG TTGCT

45

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:11:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 36 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:11:

GATTATTTGG CGTATGCCGA TATCGACTAT GACCAT

36

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:12:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 21 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:12:

GGGAAGTTTC GAATGAAAAC G

21

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:13:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 38 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:13:

GTCGGCATAT GCATATAATC ATAGTTGCCG TTTTCATT

38

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:14:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 41 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:14:

CGAATGAAAA CGGCAACTAT GATTATTTGA TCTATGCCGA C

41

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:15:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 41 base pairs
(B) TYPE: nucleic acid
(C) STRANDEDNESS: single
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:15:

CGAATGAAAA CGGCAACTAT GATTATTTGT TCTATGCCGA C

41

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:16:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 41 base pairs
(B) TYPE: nucleic acid
(C) STRANDEDNESS: single
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:16:

CGAATGAAAA CGGCAACTAT GATTATTTGG TTTATGCCGA C

41

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:17:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 41 base pairs
(B) TYPE: nucleic acid
(C) STRANDEDNESS: single
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:17:

CGAATGAAAA CGGCAACTAT GATTATTTGA GCTATGCCGA C

41

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:18:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 41 base pairs
(B) TYPE: nucleic acid
(C) STRANDEDNESS: single
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:18:

CGAATGAAAA CGGCAACTAT GATTATTTGC CTTATGCCGA C

41

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:19:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

41

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- (A) LENGTH: 41 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:19:

CGAATGAAAA CGGCAACTAT GATTATTTGA CATATGCCGA C

41

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:20:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
- (A) LENGTH: 41 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:20:

CGAATGAAAA CGGCAACTAT GATTATTTGT ACTATGCCGA C

41

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:21:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
- (A) LENGTH: 41 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:21:

CGAATGAAAA CGGCAACTAT GATTATTTGC ACTATGCCGA C

41

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:22:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
- (A) LENGTH: 41 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:22:

CGAATGAAAA CGGCAACTAT GATTATTTGG GCTATGCCGA C

41

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:23:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
- (A) LENGTH: 41 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

42

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(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:23:

CGAATGAAAA CGGCAACTAT GATTATTTGC AATATGCCGA C

41

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:24:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 41 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:24:

CGAATGAAAA CGGCAACTAT GATTATTTGA ACTATGCCGA C

41

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:25:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 41 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:25:

GCAATGAAAA CGGCAACTAT GATTATTTGA AATATGCCGA C

41

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:26:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 41 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:26:

CGAATGAAAA CGGCAACTAT GATTATTTGG ATTATGCCGA C

41

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:27:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 41 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:27:

CGAATGAAAA CGGCAACTAT GATTATTTGG AATATGCCGA C

41

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:28:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 41 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:28:

CGAATGAAAA CGGCAACTAT GATTATTTGT GTATTGCCGA C

41

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:29:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 41 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:29:

CGAATGAAAA CGGCAACTAT GATTATTTGT GGTATGCCGA C

41

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:30:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 41 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:30:

CGAATGAAAA CGGCAACTAT GATTATTTGA GATATGCCGA C

41

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:31:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 1968 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:31:

AGCTTGAAGA AGTGAAGAAG CAGAGAGGCT ATTGAATAAA TGAGTAGAAA GCGCCATATC 60

GGCGCTTTTC TTTTGGAAAGA AAATATAGGG AAAATGGTAC TTGTTAAAAA TTCGGAATAT 120
 TTATACAACA TCATATGTTT CACATTGAAA GGGGAGGAGA ATCATGAAAC AACAAAAACG 180
 GCTTTACGCC CGATTGCTGA CGCTGTTATT TGCGCTCATC TTCTTGCTGC CTCATTCTGC 240
 AGCAGCGCG GCAAATCTTA ATGGGACGCT GATGCAGTAT TTTGAATGGT ACATGCCAA 300
 TGACGGCCAA CATTGGAAGC GTTGCAAAA CGACTCGGCA TATTTGGCTG AACACGGTAT 360
 TACTGCCGTC TGGATTCCCC CGGCATATAA GGGAACGAGC CAAGCGGATG TGGGCTACGG 420
 TGCTTACGAC CTTTATGATT TAGGGGAGTT TCATAAAAA GGGACGGTTC GGACAAAGTA 480
 CGGCACAAAA GGAGAGCTGC AATCTGCGAT CAAAAGTCTT CATTCCCGCG ACATTAACGT 540
 TTACGGGGAT GTGGTCATCA ACCACAAAGG CGCGCCTGAT GCGACCGAAG ATGTAACCGC 600
 GGTTGAAGTC GATCCCGCTG ACCGCAACCG CGTAATTCA GGAGAACACC TAATTAAAAGC 660
 CTGGACACAT TTTCATTTC CGGGGCGCGG CAGCACATAC AGCGATTTA AATGGCATTG 720
 GTACCATTTT GACGGAACCG ATTGGGACGA GTCCCGAAAG CTGAACCGCA TCTATAAGTT 780
 TCAAGGAAAG GCTTGGGATT GGGAGTTTC CAATGAAAAC GGCAACTATG ATTATTTGAT 840
 GTATGCCGAC ATCGATTATG ACCATCCTGA TGTCGCAGCA GAAATTAAGA GATGGGGCAC 900
 TTGGTATGCC AATGAACCTGC AATTGGACGG TTTCCGTCTT GATGCTGTCA AACACATTAA 960
 ATTTCTTTT TTGCGGGATT GGGTTAATCA TGTCAGGGAA AAAACGGGAA AGGAAATGTT 1020
 TACGGTAGCT GAATATTGGC AGAATGACTT GGGCGCGCTG GAAAACATT TGAACAAAAC 1080
 AAATTTTAAT CATTCACTGT TTGACGTGCC GCTTCATTAT CAGTCCATG CTGCATCGAC 1140
 ACAGGGAGGC GGCTATGATA TGAGGAAATT GCTGAACGGT ACGGTCGTTT CCAAGCATCC 1200
 GTTGAAATCG GTTACATTG TCGATAACCA TGATACACAG CCGGGCAAT CGCTTGAGTC 1260
 GACTGTCCAA ACATGGTTA AGCCGCTTGC TTACGCTTTT ATTCTCACAA GGGAAATCTGG 1320
 ATACCCCTCAG GTTTCTACG GGGATATGTA CGGGACGAAA GGAGACTCCC AGCGCGAAAT 1380
 TCCTGCCCTG AAACACAAAA TTGAACCGAT CTTAAAGCG AGAAAACAGT ATGGTACGG 1440
 AGCACAGCAT GATTATTCG ACCACCATGA CATTGTCGGC TGGACAAGGG AAGGCGACAG 1500
 CTCGGTTGCA AATTCAAGGTT TGGCGGCATT AATAACAGAC GGACCCGGTG GGGCAAAGCG 1560
 AATGTATGTC GGCCGGCAAA ACGCCGGTGA GACATGGCAT GACATTACCG GAAACCGTTC 1620
 GGAGCCGGTT GTCATCAATT CGGAAGGCTG GGGAGAGTTT CACGTAACCG GCGGGTCGGT 1680
 TTCAATTAT GTTCAAAGAT AGAAGAGCAG AGAGGACGGA TTTCTGAAG GAAATCCGTT 1740
 TTTTATTTT GCCCCTCTTA TAAATTTCTT TGATTACATT TTATAATTAA TTTTAACAAA 1800
 GTGTCTACAG CCCTCAGGAA GGACTTGCTG ACAGTTGAA TCGCATAGGT AAGGCGGGGA 1860
 TGAAATGGCA ACGTTATCTG ATGTACCAAA GAAAGCAAAT GTGTGAAAAA TGACGGTATC 1920
 GCGGGTGATC AATCATCCTG AGACTGTGAC GGATGAATTG AAAAGCT 1968

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:32:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 (A) LENGTH: 483 amino acids

(B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:32:

Ala Asn Leu Asn Gly Thr Leu Met Gln Tyr Phe Glu Trp Tyr Met Pro
 1 5 10 15

Asn Asp Gly Gln His Trp Lys Arg Leu Gln Asn Asp Ser Ala Tyr Leu
 20 25 30

Ala Glu His Gly Ile Thr Ala Val Trp Ile Pro Pro Ala Tyr Lys Gly
 35 40 45

Thr Ser Gln Ala Asp Val Gly Tyr Gly Ala Tyr Asp Leu Tyr Asp Leu
 50 55 60

Gly Glu Phe His Gln Lys Gly Thr Val Arg Thr Lys Tyr Gly Thr Lys
 65 70 75 80

Gly Glu Leu Gln Ser Ala Ile Lys Ser Leu His Ser Arg Asp Ile Asn
 85 90 95

Val Tyr Gly Asp Val Val Ile Asn His Lys Gly Gly Ala Asp Ala Thr
 100 105 110

Glu Asp Val Thr Ala Val Glu Val Asp Pro Ala Asp Arg Asn Arg Val
 115 120 125

Ile Ser Gly Glu His Leu Ile Lys Ala Trp Thr His Phe His Phe Pro
 130 135 140

Gly Arg Gly Ser Thr Tyr Ser Asp Phe Lys Trp His Trp Tyr His Phe
 145 150 155 160

Asp Gly Thr Asp Trp Asp Glu Ser Arg Lys Leu Asn Arg Ile Tyr Lys
 165 170 175

Phe Gln Gly Lys Ala Trp Asp Trp Glu Val Ser Asn Glu Asn Gly Asn
 180 185 190

Tyr Asp Tyr Leu Met Tyr Ala Asp Ile Asp Tyr Asp His Pro Asp Val
 195 200 205

Ala Ala Glu Ile Lys Arg Trp Gly Thr Trp Tyr Ala Asn Glu Leu Gln
 210 215 220

Leu Asp Gly Phe Arg Leu Asp Ala Val Lys His Ile Lys Phe Ser Phe
 225 230 235 240

Leu Arg Asp Trp Val Asn His Val Arg Glu Lys Thr Gly Lys Glu Met
 245 250 255

Phe Thr Val Ala Glu Tyr Trp Gln Asn Asp Leu Gly Ala Leu Glu Asn
 260 265 270

Tyr Leu Asn Lys Thr Asn Phe Asn His Ser Val Phe Asp Val Pro Leu
 275 280 285

His Tyr Gln Phe His Ala Ala Ser Thr Gln Gly Gly Gly Tyr Asp Met
 290 295 300

Arg Lys Leu Leu Asn Gly Thr Val Val Ser Lys His Pro Leu Lys Ser

305	310	315	320
Val Thr Phe Val Asp Asn His Asp Thr Gln Pro Gly Gln Ser Leu Glu			
325	330	335	
Ser Thr Val Gln Thr Trp Phe Lys Pro Leu Ala Tyr Ala Phe Ile Leu			
340	345	350	
Thr Arg Glu Ser Gly Tyr Pro Gln Val Phe Tyr Gly Asp Met Tyr Gly			
355	360	365	
Thr Lys Gly Asp Ser Gln Arg Glu Ile Pro Ala Leu Lys His Lys Ile			
370	375	380	
Glu Pro Ile Leu Lys Ala Arg Lys Gln Tyr Ala Tyr Gly Ala Gln His			
385	390	395	400
Asp Tyr Phe Asp His His Asp Ile Val Gly Trp Thr Arg Glu Gly Asp			
405	410	415	
Ser Ser Val Ala Asn Ser Gly Leu Ala Ala Leu Ile Thr Asp Gly Pro			
420	425	430	
Gly Gly Ala Lys Arg Met Tyr Val Gly Arg Gln Asn Ala Gly Glu Thr			
435	440	445	
Trp His Asp Ile Thr Gly Asn Arg Ser Glu Pro Val Val Ile Asn Ser			
450	455	460	
Glu Gly Trp Gly Glu Phe His Val Asn Gly Gly Ser Val Ser Ile Tyr			
465	470	475	480
Val Gln Arg			

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:33:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 511 amino acids
 - (B) TYPE: amino acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

- (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:33:

Met Lys Gln Gln Lys Arg Leu Tyr Ala Arg Leu Leu Thr Leu Leu Phe			
1	5	10	15
Ala Leu Ile Phe Leu Leu Pro His Ser Ala Ala Ala Ala Asn Leu			
20	25	30	
Asn Gly Thr Leu Met Gln Tyr Phe Glu Trp Tyr Met Pro Asn Asp Gly			
35	40	45	
His Trp Lys Arg Leu Gln Asn Asp Ser Ala Tyr Leu Ala Glu His Gly			
50	55	60	
Ile Thr Ala Val Trp Ile Pro Pro Ala Tyr Lys Gly Thr Ser Gln Ala			
65	70	75	80
Asp Val Gly Tyr Gly Ala Tyr Asp Leu Tyr Asp Leu Gly Glu Phe His			
85	90	95	
Gln Lys Gly Thr Val Arg Thr Lys Tyr Gly Thr Lys Gly Glu Leu Gln			

100	105	110
Ser Ala Ile Lys Ser Leu His Ser Arg Asp Ile Asn Val Tyr Gly Asp		
115	120	125
Val Val Ile Asn His Lys Gly Gly Ala Asp Ala Thr Glu Asp Val Thr		
130	135	140
Ala Val Glu Val Asp Pro Ala Asp Arg Asn Arg Val Ile Ser Gly Glu		
145	150	155
His Leu Ile Lys Ala Trp Thr His Phe His Phe Pro Gly Arg Gly Ser		
165	170	175
Thr Tyr Ser Asp Phe Lys Trp His Trp Tyr His Phe Asp Gly Thr Asp		
180	185	190
Trp Asp Glu Ser Arg Lys Leu Asn Arg Ile Tyr Lys Phe Gln Gly Lys		
195	200	205
Ala Trp Asp Trp Glu Val Ser Asn Glu Asn Gly Asn Tyr Asp Tyr Leu		
210	215	220
Met Tyr Ala Asp Ile Asp Tyr Asp His Pro Asp Val Ala Ala Glu Ile		
225	230	235
Lys Arg Trp Gly Thr Trp Tyr Ala Asn Glu Leu Gln Leu Asp Gly Phe		
245	250	255
Arg Leu Asp Ala Val Lys His Ile Lys Phe Ser Phe Leu Arg Asp Trp		
260	265	270
Val Asn His Val Arg Glu Lys Thr Gly Lys Glu Met Phe Thr Val Ala		
275	280	285
Glu Tyr Trp Gln Asn Asp Leu Gly Ala Leu Glu Asn Tyr Leu Asn Lys		
290	295	300
Thr Asn Phe Asn His Ser Val Phe Asp Val Pro Leu His Tyr Gln Phe		
305	310	315
320		
His Ala Ala Ser Thr Gln Gly Gly Tyr Asp Met Arg Lys Leu Leu		
325	330	335
Asn Gly Thr Val Val Ser Lys His Pro Leu Lys Ser Val Thr Phe Val		
340	345	350
Asp Asn His Asp Thr Gln Pro Gly Gln Ser Leu Glu Ser Thr Val Gln		
355	360	365
Thr Trp Phe Lys Pro Leu Ala Tyr Ala Phe Ile Leu Thr Arg Glu Ser		
370	375	380
Gly Tyr Pro Gln Val Phe Tyr Gly Asp Met Tyr Gly Thr Lys Gly Asp		
385	390	395
400		
Ser Gln Arg Glu Ile Pro Ala Leu Lys His Lys Ile Glu Pro Ile Leu		
405	410	415
Lys Ala Arg Lys Gln Tyr Ala Tyr Gly Ala Gln His Asp Tyr Phe Asp		
420	425	430
His His Asp Ile Val Gly Trp Thr Arg Glu Gly Asp Ser Ser Val Ala		
435	440	445
Asn Ser Gly Leu Ala Ala Leu Ile Thr Asp Gly Pro Gly Gly Ala Lys		
450	455	460